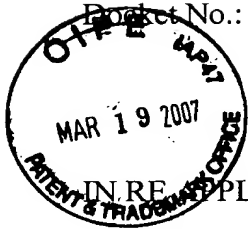


Project No.: 0010-1057-0



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

:

YOSHIHIRO USUDA ET AL

: EXAMINER: FRONDA, C. L.

SERIAL NO. : 09/441,055

:

FILED: NOVEMBER 16, 1999

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-METHIONINE BY FERMENTATION

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. BOX 1450  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated December 19, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following amendment and remarks.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this response.

**Support for the Amendment** appears on page 9 of this response.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this response.